

REMARKS

Claims 41-89 are pending in the above-referenced patent application. This Election without Traverse is submitted in response to the Office Action dated March 27, 2007, which objected to claims 83, 85, 87 and 89, and asserted a Restriction Requirement.

Claims 83, 85, 87 and 89 are objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75 (c) as purportedly improper multiple dependent claims. Claims 83, 85, 87 and 89 have been amended. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 83, 85, 87 and 89 are proper dependent claims, and respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

The Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. §§121 and 372 as follows:

Group I: Claims 41-66, 82, 84, 86 and 88, drawn to a method for plastid transformation and a plant thereby produced; and

Group II: Claims 67-81, drawn to a vector.

Applicants hereby elect for further prosecution the invention of Group I including claims 41-66, 82, 84, 86 and 88 without traverse. Applicant further requests examination of claims 83, 85, 87 and 89 as they ultimately depend from claim 82, a claim within Group I. For this reason, claims 83, 85, 87 and 89 are also claims drawn to Group I.

Applicants have withdrawn the non-elected claims of Group II, and reserve their right to file a divisional application directed to the non-elected claims at a later time. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.48(b), there is no change in inventorship as a result of this election.

Applicants respectfully request examination of claims 41-66 and 82-89, submit that these claims are in condition for allowance, and request that a Notice of Allowance be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

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